

**10/579654**

**AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 MAY 2006**

Docket No.: 6106-000006/US/NP  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Paul MEREDITH et al.

Application No.: National Phase of  
PCT/AU2004/001622

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: SILICA FILMS AND METHOD OF  
PRODUCTION THEREOF

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent

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applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

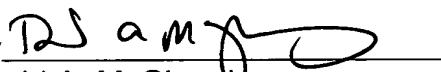
A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 6106-000006/US/NP.

Dated: May 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

DAM/dl

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PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO			<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Application Number	Not Yet Assigned <b>200579654</b>
			Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
			First Named Inventor	Paul Meredith
			Art Unit	N/A
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
			Attorney Docket Number	6106-000006/US/NP
Sheet	1	of	1	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA*	US-6,599,976-B1	07-29-2003	KOBAYASHI et al	
	AB*	US-6,403,183-B1	06-11-2002	IWAMIYA et al	
	AC*	US-6,291,697-B1	09-18-2001	TANAKA et al	
	AD*	US-6,099,911*	08-08-2000	YANO et al	
	AE*	US-6,511,721**	01-28-2003	MURATA et al	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	BA	EP-834488-A*		04-08-1998		✓
	BB	EP-1074859-A**		02-07-2001		✓
	BC	JP-10-226767		08-25-1998		✓
	BD	JP-10-316934		12-02-1998		✓
	BE	JP-08-120225		05-14-1996		✓
	BF	JP-04-180977		06-29-1992		✓

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

\* EP-834488-A corresponds to US-6,099,911

\*\*EP-1074859-A corresponds to US-6,511,721

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	CA	ISHINO et al., "Mass production of hydrophobic silica aerogel and readout optics of Cherenkov light", Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A 457 (2001) pp 581-587.	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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DAM/dl